



News Release

Arizona Department of Public Safety

POST OFFICE BOX 6638 * PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85005-6638

Date: July 6, 2007

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Direct Inquiries to:

"pio@azdps.gov"

Arizona Department of Public Safety Shooting Incident – Officer Kyle Deforest

At around 10:39 P.M., on July 5, 2007, Officer Kyle Deforest attempted to make a traffic stop on a motorcyclist, in the area of US 60 (Grand Avenue) near State Route 101. It quickly became a failure to yield and around 10:41 P.M., the motorcycle operator either struck a curb or just dismounted and fled on foot, near the area of U.S. 60 and 99th Avenue. The motorcycle was identified as a customized sport bike.

Officer Deforest, advised DPS Communications of his location and began a foot pursuit of the suspect, who at some point shot at the officer. A second DPS Officer Eric Paulsen was immediately on scene to assist Officer Deforest. Officer Deforest was able to contact DPS Communications and advised he had been shot. Preliminary information on the suspect description was broadcast to all area officers and local area law enforcement agencies.

Officer Deforest was shot in the left thigh, right thigh, left forearm and grazed the right side of the head. Officer Deforest remained conscious throughout the on-scene treatment, the transport to the hospital and while being treated at John C. Lincoln North Hospital. His condition is good and he will remain in the hospital overnight for observation. He is expected to fully recover from the gunshot wounds sustained. Officer Deforest, 32 years-old, is a five year veteran of the department.

The search continues for the suspect, identified as a white male, approximately six feet tall, (weight, hair, eye color unknown at his time), wearing a black jacket, black pants and initially a red helmet which has been located. The motorcycle has been taken into custody by investigators.

Arizona Department of Public Safety Officers were assisted by the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office, City of Peoria Police Department, City of Glendale Police Department and City of Phoenix Police Department.

Investigators from the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office will be conducting the criminal investigation assisted by the DPS Special Investigation Unit, into the shooting of the DPS Officer.